BICYCLES

TRAFFICIN VOTES

And Suffrage to the Highest Bidder.

THE ELECTION IN HENRICO

Was Merely a Simple Transaction of Bargain and Sale,

MARKET VALUE OF BALLOTS

Cheap Early in the Day, Eut Rapidly increasing in Price.

CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY BOUGHT.

And Their Choice of Candidates Easily Changed.

THE OLD SOLDIERS AS A JOB LOT.

Eighty-Three of the Veterans at Three and a Half a Head.

AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF MONEY USED.

The Most of it Spent by Candidates Ander son and Braner Witnesses of These

for His Opponent Details of Henrico's

The unsavory reputation which the county of Henrico has made heretofore for corruption in politics was discounted. surpassed, and altogether outdone in the recent Democratic primary for the nomination of county officers,

The conditions which existed at the polls on that day were so debased and ing the darkest days of past contests to the county are enstinted in their critisms of the practices which obtained at the primary on March 28th.

The election was characterized by the most unblushing and fingrant use of money, and the methods resorted to for Men bartered their suffrage in the open market to the highest bidder, and the longest purse was often the measure of success in obtaining a vote.

Candidates had representatives at the polls with rolls of one, two, and five-dollar bills, and it was re only made plain what they were the for, but they had it understood around about that money could be secured of them by the voter who would east his ballot according to their direction.

The murmurings of this state of affairs were heard immediately after the cled tions, and communications were sent to The Times charging the most victous and debauching use of money. Though the facts were presented by undoubted au-thority, they seemed overdrawn, and it was hard to believe that they were not

THE CRAPGES CONFIRMED.

A careful investigation made among the supporters of all the various candidates in the county has confirmed the worst charges made in the use of money, and an overwhelming mass of testimony, se-cured from men who will allow the use of their names if necessary, showing that votes were bought from the price of a "whisky short" (5 cents) up to \$25

The degree of freedom with which the candidates offered money for votes, and number of white Virginia citizens who were willing to sell them, is almost be-

yond belief.

Men of fair intelligence and appearance of respectability sold their votes to the highest bidder, and more than one in-stance is cited where men who were property owners allowed their choice of a candidate to be changed for two or three dollars, and it is charged, with the proof of more than one witness, that a man who was himself a candi-date for overseer of the poor sold his vote for treasurer for \$5.

The competition for votes was of the livelest character, and in many cases voters stayed around the polis all day holding off from voting in order to get the largest sum obtainable for their votes, and sometimes 25 cents added to the sums alterate the title and already offered would turn the tide and secure the much-desired ballot.

A PARTY FIGHT.

The primary was for the nomination of Democratic candidates for the various county officers to be voted for in the regular spring election.

There was no opposition against Commonwealth's Attorney Sands and Sheriff Birron Solomen, and hence no special interest was munifested in these offices.

The chief fight was over the contest for treasurer, for which there were three candidates—Mr. W. H. Brauer, the present encumbent; Mr. George E. Anderson, and Mr. John Lindsay, Jr.

For the commissioners of revenue there

and Mr. John Lindsay, Jr.

For the commissioners of revenue there was also a lively contest, but it was for the office of treasurer that the bulk of the money was spent, and taking the estimates of friends of all the candidates, not less than \$10,000 was spent in the primary, a large part of which went for the purchase of yotes cutright.

The contest was eager, cornest, and exciting, and every means, honest as well as doubtful, was resorted to to secure yotes.

All of the three candidates used notey—Mr. Lindrey to a moderate amount and Mesera Braver and Anderson in quantities running up in the thousands.

claims to have used much less than the lowest sum named.

Besides the usual method of paying men to come to the polls and work all day for a candidate, numerous other plans were adopted for securing voters under the guise of hiring them as work-

Men were "allowed" the amount of others were given a dollar and a half to ride a horse to the polls and allow the use of the animal in drumming up voters. Many wagens were hired in the

the use of the aman in administ a voters. Many wagens were hired in the same way.

Another method that was used in the late primary was to negotiate through a third party. A man would approach the "easther" of one of the candidates and ask him, "How much will you give for one, two, or six votes?" After a sufficient amount of dickering on the part of seller and buyer a price would be agreed upon. The negotiator would go off and return with the number of voters agreed upon, take them to the polls and vote them, and collect the money for them. Even these masquerading tactics were discarded inter in the day, and many times the money was seen to change hands between the buyer and the voter open and above board.

The election progressed without any ap-

above board.

The election progressed without any apparent use of money until about 11 o'clock, when it became evident that money was being used. Each candidate accures the other of having commenced it first, and made the other an unwilling spetitor in such methods.

COMPETITION THE LIFE OF TRADE.

COMPETITION THE LIFE OF TRADE.

Votes were bought at small prices at first, but the prices went up as the competition increased, and votes that cost is of a st midday were held at from \$5 to \$10 before sundown.

The candidates not only bought voters, but they bid for the votes of each other's workers at the polls, and well nutbenticated incidents are told where men paid to work at the polls for one candidate received the money of another candidate for his vote.

The evidence of such transactions were

received the money of another candidate for his vote.

The evidence of such transactions were easily obtained, and it is probably the most debauched election that ever took place in the State.

Votes were purchased at precincts in a wholesale manner where no bribery was ever known before.

It is said by many that are familiar with elections in Henrico that the first time money was used in the county for buying votes was during the Waddill-Sands centest for clerkship two years ago, and although the methods were more open and the amount expended much larger in the recent primary, the demorphism of the contest.

rom that contest.

Money was used at every precin the county, but some were more nelo-rious for the shameful manner in which men sold their honor and self-respect than in others.

At Jones' store the vote-buyers were persistent in offering money to persons to vote for their candidates. I was told by two men at this precinct that they received money from the representative of one candidate and then voted for the reasons of their sholes. man of their choice.

I found no difficulty in securing eti-

I found no difficulty in securing etidence from both those who purchased
the votes and those who received the
noney, that the charges made of such
disgraceful methods were true.
A well-to-do-looking man drovs up to
Shumaker's precinct in a buggy and when
approached and asked to vote for a candidate was induced to change his determination to vote for another candidate
for a drink.
At the same precinct a father and
three sons accepted one dollar earn for
their vote.

BOUGHT THE VETERANS.

At this precinct is polled the votes of the immates of the Soldiers' Home, and one of the most pitiable features in the entire election was the wholesale pur-chase of these grizzled, old veterans. It is a well-known fact that they went like sheep to the standles and cast bal-

vote.

One squadron of eighty-three old veterans were bought for \$3.50 a piece, two dollars of the amount being paid by a candidate for treasurer and the balance-one and a half-by a candidate for commissioner of the revenue.

These old veterans were also dined and whiskied by one of the candidates and many of them left the sceae in a mandlin stuper. Some of them were offered \$5 for their votes by other candidates.

At some precincts it is believed that more than one-half of all the ballots cast were bought votes, and honorable men who came to vote were so disgusted with what they saw that they re-

turned home without voting.
At Hungary presenct votes were bought large numbers at prices ranging from ree to seventeen deliars and a half. One three to seventeen deliars and a nat. One vote only brought the latter amount. The voter asked twenty-five deliars for his vote, but after hanging around all day seeking the highest bidder for his suffrage, finally compromised on \$17.50.

A number of votes were paid for at Hungary at the rate of eight and ten deliars each.

TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

At Hardin's Shop the sale was to the highest bidder. Votes were bought openly. Several eye witnesses testiny that money was paid for votes in full sight of the spectators, and that men were brought in by the wagon load, voted at a stated price and the money delivered on the spot. In one or more cases it was found that they did not vote as they promised, and the money was designed back, and the seller of his vote made to

Almost numberless incidents of vote-buying are told by persons who paid out and received money. At Town Hall precinct the methods were also faceasis.

At Town Hall precinct the methods were also flagrant and voters put themselves up to the highest hidder, and one man who was buying votes for a candidate for treasurer said it reminded him of a horse auction. It was known at different times during the day what was the market price of votes. The lowest sold at about \$5 and the highest price paid was \$8. A ticket holder at this precinct remarked that he would not like to be tried for his life before a jury from that precinct if any money was at stake. was at stake.
it is charged that a number of votes

were polled at Shumaker's precinct by persons who lived in the city. I found one Richmond man, who admitted that he voted at Shumaker's illegally in this

way.

The cases of buying votes were so many that no difficulty was experienced in finding examples at any of the precincts. The candidates charge each other with trying to control entire precincts with money, and I was told by one of the men who handled the money for a candidate for treasurer, that he did not think there were more than thirty out of about one hundred votes polled at the precinct at which he was stationed that were not bought votes.

At one of the largest precincts one of the candidates came up, and being told by one of his workers, a man prominent in the affairs of the county, that votes were high at that precinct the candidate told the worker to secure the precinct no matter what it cost. This is denied by the friends of the candidate charged with giving these instructions, but the incident goes to show the spirit and the methods that prevailed that The cases of buying votes were so

shumaker's was the precinct in question, and it is said that as soon as the buying of votes commenced there it became known quickly at other precincts and the same methods were soon adopted wherever voting was in progress.

Photh of the leading candidates for treasurer charge each other with the same offence, at this preciset particularly. It is at least a well-established fact that a considerable amount of money was used there and men can be found who took money from both sides and then voted for the third candidate.

One man is said to have acknowledged that he received money for his vote from two candidates, and then failed to cast his ballot at all.

So anxious were the candidates for PROM BOTH SIDES.

votes, and their workers so reckless in the manner in which they paid out money for them, that they could not in many cases tell after the vote was polled which candidate secured it.

At least one of the candidates teld me that he found out that men who got his money voted against him, and he cited one case in which he paid a man \$42.59 as a worker, before and on the day of election, who for a small sum voted for one of his opponents.

Another case is well authenticated where a man received 55 from one candidate as a worker at the polls and was bought to vote for another candidate for \$1.

Yet another case is vouched for by a

for II.

Yet another case is vouched for by a respectable eye witness where a voter started to the polls to vote for one candidate for treasurer and was stopped when hear the polls and induced for the price of II to change his vote. The witness saw the money pass and saw the candidate take the voter by the arm and did not let him so until he had marched to the polls and voted his ballot.

THE PARMERS TOO.

At some of the country precincts where the farming element predominated the purchase of votes was not so frequent, but even those precincts were not exempt. Well-to-do-looking men in a number of instances, when asked to vote said that they could not afford to lose their time to some to the polls to vote without compensation, and in other ways intimated that they wanted money for their votes. It is needless to say that they coast their votes and went home richer than when they came to the polls. A worker at one of the outlying precincts said he spent \$57.50 in buying votes at \$3 and \$3.50 apiece, as long as his money held out, and that if he had been furnished more he could have secured more. He said the workers of the oppositing candidate pail as high as \$8 for some votes at that precinct.

At another precinct a son of one of the candidates said he paid as high as eight dollars for votes and men who had yous to sell came to him and told him that they had been offered as much as ten dollars by the upposition. Said he: "The pace came too hot for me, and I had to pull out.

that they had been offered as much as ten dollars by the opposition. Said he: "The pace came too hot for me, and I had to pull out."

The same party said that his opposing workers told him they had paid as high as \$12.50 for votes at that precinct.

At th' same precinct the barter for votes was especially bold, and in one or more cases men were offered money for their votes while in the act of voting. One man, whose name was given, was One man, whose name was given, was offered \$5 at the window for his vote, and in order to increase the inducement he was told that he would be given \$5 for his father's vote also. He refused both offered to the control of the contr both offers.

OF A DIFFERENT NATURE.

Along with the purchase of votes went frauds of another kind, hand in hand, such as false transfers, repeating and voting in the county by men who lived in the city.

I saw a number of persons who testified to such irregularities.

The gravest charge made was at Barton Heights precinct, where it is alleged by a man who was a witness to the count, that votes were taken off the file and substituted for others and that in the count they were called for the wrong candidate.

If any person be doubtful of this deplorable condition of affairs in Henrico on March the 28th he can find an abundance of evidence on even the most casual investigation. I had no trouble in securing a mass of evidence showing the open use of money and in some instances fraudulent voting. I interviewed voters and precinct workers impartially, and the testimony easily obtainable showed numerous cases of bribery, which if separately published would fill a volume.

In cases where a party stated that he saw another party receive or pay out money for a vote. I sought out the party in question, if possible, and in most cases the report was confirmed by the party concerned. In fact, there were very few denials of the charges, and then it was for other reasons than because they were not true.

For instance one man who was reported to have used money in purchasing votes denied it, and protested also that he had not received compensation for the work he did for his candidate, was proven to have done both by other persons.

The candidate in question said he paid him \$25 to work for him, and voters told me that he paid them money GETTING EVIDENCE.

The candidate in question said as par-him \$25 to work for him, and voters told me that he paid them money for their votes.

In the search for evidence of the al-leged use of money in the primary, I also came across evidence of fraud in the casting, handling and counting of the

to make specific charges of either the debauched use of money or fraudulent voting, but to show the demoralization that has grown up in Henrico because of the departure from honest methods in

No doubt many of the facts lightly touched upon here will have complete ventilation, if the Democratic committee grant an examination of the charges made by the candidates, who have aleady given notice of contest to their

WILL TESTIFY.

Although the witnesses to these facts do not care to figure in print, most of them expressed a willingness to allow the use of their names if necessary to substantiate the facts as they stated them

stantiate the facts as they stated them for publication in The Times.

George E. Anderson, who was defeated for treasurer by W. H. Brauer, is not satisfied with the contest. Anderson and Brauer were opponents for the same office four years ago, Mr. Anderson on the Republican ticket and Mr. Brauer on the Democratic ticket, and Brauer

on the Democratic ticket, and Brauer won.

Since that time Mr. Anderson has affiliated with the Democrats, however, and was recognized as such by the Democratic committee in the recent primary. Mr. John T. Lindsay, Jr., was also a candidate, but in the contest it was shown that the "sinews of war" were used principally between the two first-named, each allegeing that the other used it first, and the most of it.

Mr. Anderson yesterday served notice of contest on Messrs. Brauer and Lindsay, his opposing candidates, and also on Captain J. H. O'Bannon, chairman of the Democratic committee. Mr. Anderson is represented by Mr. W. H. Beveridge and the notice of contest is said to be quite spicy.

OTHER CONTESTS.

It was reported yesterday evening that Mr. Caskie E. Smith who was defeated for the nomination for Commissioner of Revenus for the upper district, by Mr. Charles W. Childrey, the present incumbent, had served a similar notice on the successful candidate. It is said that Mr. C. V. Meredith will represent Mr. Smith in the contest.

Notice has also been served by J. W. Taylor, candidate for supervisor in Fairfield district, on Henry C. Hechler, the successful candidate. Taylor is also represented by W. H. Beveridge.

It is stated that a meeting of the County Committee to pass upon the claims of the contestants will be called at an early date.

Mr. Brauer's friends state that he is ittle concerned about the contest, that he charges made are untrue, and that f all the precincts at which frauds and regularities are charged were thrown out he ould yet have a majority of 107

On the other hand, Anderson claims to have an abundance of testimony, and is prepared to prove all he says. He says he proposes to make his fight inside the party lines, and will show the committee that he has full evidence for his claims.

CHARGES OF PRAUD.

CHARGES OF FRAUD.

The principal keharges of fraud are the issuing of false registration papers and the fraudulent manipulation and counting of votes at Barton Heights precinct. The charges at Barton Heights are that the registrar put tickets on the file instead of the judge. That tickets were taken from the file after they were voted and others substituted; that one that W. O. Shelburne, who was not a sworn officer, acted as clerk, counted the ballots, challenged voters, and did other acts contrary to the primary. Mr. Anderson makes specific charges for each one of the precincts at Shoemaker's, Short

BICYCLES

SAKS'GIFT TO THEIR YOUNG PATR

We have bought from the Western Wheel Works, of Chicago, Ill., a number of BOYS' BICYCLES of the latest 1895 type, and we propose to distribute them among the boys.

ONE EACH WEEK.

Beginning to-morrow morning --- with every purchase made in our store --- of any amount, great or small---we shall issue a coupon which will entitle the purchaser to enter our

WORD-BUILDING CONTEST.

of a Boys'.

Cresent Bicycle No. 3 or a P. B. Boys' Junior Bicycle.

No proper names will be counted. Only words to be found in Worcester's Unabridged Dictionary are permissible. This contest begins 10-MORROW. Ends SATURDAY, April 13th, at 10:30 P. M. At which time all lists must be in our hands, accompanied by the coupons received at time of purchase.

Each Bicycle

is provided with hose-pipe pneumatic tires-the latest improved coneshape bearings and hollow sprocket. All the parts are made of the lightest and strongest materials known to the manufacturers of first-class Bicycles, and have withstood the severest tests.

A Written Guarantee, signed by the representative of the makers, good for one year, accompanies each machine.

They're in the Window---Look at Them.

Each .: Wheel

Is completely equipped with amp, Wrench, Lamp, Oil Can, . Hand-Inflating Pump, Complete Repair Kit, Detachable Rubber Mud Guard,

Detachable Brake.

The announcement of the name of the winner will be made in the papers of Monday, April 15th. The Bicycles will interest the boys -- but of far greater interest to parents are the advantages for satisfactory and economical shopping afforded by our Indisputably Largest Stock---our Undeniably Best Values in Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothes, Hats, Shoes and Furnishings offered at our Acknowledged-to-be- Lowest Prices.

A. SAKS AND COMPANY. Main and Eleventh Sts.

AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY Pump, Hardin's Shop, Smither's, Baker's bers of Congress, Wise secured 2,322 votes.

Fump. Hardin's Shop, Smither's, Baker's Jones' Store, Bruin's Barton Heights and Carter's, and closed his notice of contest to Captson O'Bannon, the chairman of the County Committee, as follows:

This contestant respectfully submits that if the charges presented in this contest be proved by him, and because of the reason that the plans of the primary have been violated and several sets of tickets used, contrary to the said plans and understanding, and to the detriment of this contestant, that he is entitled to have the primary election as to the office of Treasurer, set aside and declared null and void, and a new primary of some other mode adopted by the County Committee for the nomination of candidates for the office of Treasurer.

Supprise and consternation.

SURPRISE AND CONSTERNATION.

This contestant respectfully submits that he entered the contest in good faith and with the determination to abide by the decision of the County Committee, he believing his cause was just and in the hands of friends of his own party, and that he would receive that consideration at the hands of the County Committee and of the judges and clerks appointed for said election which he was entitled to acceive as a candidate for office; and that he would have an honest count of the ballots cast, and that no fraud would be perpetrated against him.

This contestant further represents to the gentlemen of the committee, that to his utter surprise and consternation, after entering the contest he found that votes had been bargained for and purchased, and that the election was conducted upon the basis of who could parchase the largest number of votes, regardless of the good of the Democratic party in the county of Henrico; that votes were openly bought at every precinct in the county, and whilst this contestant does not hold himself biameless in the premises, yet he charges that the conduct of this election, if permitted to stand, will be to the great detriment and utter ruin of the Democratic party in the county of Henrico.

This contestant is advised and believes that in making this coatest, whilst demanding that right that each and every Democratic voter has in the party, he is also doing that which is to the best interests of the party, and that if said frauds are preven, either in part or in whole, that candidates for office have knowingly and wilfully defrauded in any manner, shape or form, that it is to the interest of the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and of the citizens of the county of Henrico in particular, and to the Democratic said county, that such frauds should not be tolerated by the County Committee; and, if so permitted, no longer can a party or a community of law-abiding citizens feel safe in the hands of persons who will permit such frauds to be perpetrated.

This contestant is advised and believ

It is claimed, however, by many that the apparent gain of 500 votes in two years is accounted for by the rapid growth of Chestnut Hill, Barton Heights, the Soldiers' Home and other suburbs.

The office of treasurer, over which was made the closest contest, pays about \$1,000 a year, and the election is for a term of four years. Even if the winning cardidate spent the amount he is charged by his opponents with spending, he would yet have a margin of \$5,000 for the term.

As before stated, however, Mr. Brauer detres having expended one-third of that sum.

sum.

All with whom I talkd freed the committee from any blame in the irregularities, and the use of money charged in the election, and it is the general belief that as far as they could make it so, it was a fair election.

"My Country! By Co tr 1

Henrico County, V..., April 3. To Editor of The Times: To Entor of The Times: Sir,—Having seen two articles in your paper on the shameless selling of votes in the recent primary held in Henrica I will say that I was at two precincts, Whitlock's and Town Hall, and while I Whitlock's and Town Hall, and while I did not see any money passed between the buyer and seller of votes, yet I have it upon the authority of men of undoubted veracity that such was the case. Indeed I was old hat two young men of good standing sold their votes at Whitlock's for five dollars a piece, after expressing a preference for a different candidate than the one voted for. Would that they had been all, but they were not. Such disgraceful conduct on the part of free men is heyond my comprehension, and it does seen to me that men whose ideas are so devoid of what is duty to themselves, the neighborhood, and their country, should be deprived forever again of ever exercising the right franchise.

At Town [Hall the case was much

ever again of ever exercising the right franchise.

At Town Haill the case was much worse, as drunkenness and beastality were added to the shameless bargain and sale of votes. It seems at this precinct that votes went from a drink of whisky up to five dollars in money, and I may be safe in saying that fully two-thirds of the votes cast were bought. I was told that one man at this precinct sold his vote to all three of the candidates for treasurer, get drunk and did not vote for any of them.

New Mr. Editor, I have heard many censure your paper for the part you took in exposing Smithers' precinct election fraud, but, sir, if such shameful practices are to continue it were a pity that every paper in this broad universe did not strike hands with you to put down these disgraceful methods and open the eyes of good men to see the breakers on which they are drifting.

My country! My country!! How low hast thou fallen when thy sons can barter principle for money.

A DEMOCRAT.

Paper Year Course. Call and see what we can do for you.

HANNIGAN & CO., 805 east Broad street.

BE WISE AND BUY YOUR

Where One Dollar Will Take the Place of Two Dollars. 1,000 pairs Ladies' Oxfords, Tan and Black, all styles, 98c.others sell for \$1.50.

The Celebrated John Kelly Ladies' Shoes, \$2.38, \$3.50 and \$3.85-latest styles, pointed toe, worth \$4 and \$5. Ladies' Dongola and Tan Shoes, good styles, large buttons, only \$1.50. Only a few pair left. A new lot just received Men's Genuine Calf Hand-Sewed, all

styles, \$2.50. Same are extra fine values-guaranteed. SPECIAL .- Men's Kangaroo Hand Sewed, 23-guaranteed. Men's Tan Hand-Made, \$3-worth \$4.50. Boys' Tans, \$1.50-beauties.

Boys' and Girls' School Shoes, solid, 98c.

AIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII VIRGINIA SAMPLE SHOE

SEVENTH AND BROAD.

ADVICE FRE

Important Facts.

To simply leave your order at a tailoring establishment is not an assured fact that you will receive a Custom-Made Suit of Clothes, as there are some in the trade who make pretensions and do not give you full value for your money. We know you are satisfied that we are Trustworthy, Competent, and Reliable.

CUR WORKMANSHIP,

OUR TRIMMINGS.

OUR SELECTIONS. OUR EXTREMELY LOW PRICES

ARE OPEN FOR YOUR INSPECTION. The 10 per cent. reduction for Cash is an important feature for this season.

WHITLOCK & SONS,